

III. Remarks

Applicants are grateful to the Examiner for allowing claims 27-30.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 20, 26 and 31-34 stand rejected. Claims 1, 9, 17 and 26 have been canceled. Claims 2, 4, 10, 12, 18, 20 and 31-34 have been amended to change their dependencies to depend from allowed claims 27-30.

It is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance.

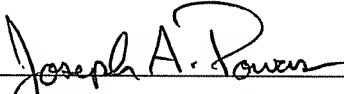
IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance at an early date, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any excess payment that may be associated with this communication to deposit account **04-1679**.

Respectfully submitted,

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